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Early in 1964, a committee representing Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service and Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service was appointed to help solve such problems of conflict in use. The members came up with three main objectives:

1. To review and recommend changes in policies to provide greater fish and wildlife development.
2. To encourage greater participation in project planning by State fish and game interests.
3. To help settle problems that could not be resolved in the field.

The committee points to some notable examples of achieving these objectives. For example, a policy change by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has made federal aid fish and wildlife restoration funds available for use in watershed projects. These funds, which are allocated to State fish and game agencies on a 75 percent Federal - 25 percent State matching basis, can be used for the development and maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat.

In another instance, a meeting of the committee with representatives of State fish and game agencies and the Soil Conservation Service in Sisseton, South Dakota, resulted in greater coordination among these interests in the Dakotas and Minnesota.

Another example involved trout fishery damage and the loss of bottomland hardwood forests at projects in the southeastern states, particularly in North Carolina.

Committee members met with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and as a result, watershed project work plans are reviewed by all resource interests before the plans are returned to local sponsors for their final approval.

Success comes when the work plan for a project provides for the measures that will offset or reduce the damage the project would have done to fish and wildlife habitat. The answer lies in sound, multiple-purpose planning so that the projects will serve a variety of interests.

The Soil Conservation Service itself has taken many steps to prevent fish and wildlife losses which may be caused by a local project. For example, the agency developed a method of drawing cold water from the bottom of reservoirs where this water was to be released into trout streams.

USDA-SCS members of the joint committee are: Hollis R. Williams, Deputy Administrator for Watersheds; John H. Wetzel, Assistant Deputy Administrator for Watersheds; and Lawrence V. Compton, Head Biologist, Plant Technology Division.

Fish and Wildlife Service members are James T. McBroom, Assistant Director for Cooperative Services, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife; William M. White, Chief, Division of River Basin Studies; and Stuart P. Davey, Chief, Special Studies Branch, Division of River Basin Studies.